

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 LENING 00024 071028Z  
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W  
-----071045Z 101708 /22  
R 070616Z JAN 77  
FM AMCONSUL LENINGRAD  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2886  
INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

C O N F I D E N T I A L L E N I N G R A D 0 0 2 4

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: XGDS-4  
TAGS: PFOR, PINT, SREF, CVIS, OGEN, UR  
SUBJ: YEAR END FIGURES ON LENINGRAD REFUSENIK EMIGRATION

REF: A. LENINGRAD 1970, B. LENINGRAD 1969

1. SUMMARY: DURING ITS LAST THREE SESSIONS IN 1976, LENINGRAD OVIR MADE AN APPARENT EFFORT TO COUNTER-BALANCE ITS EARLIER LARGESSE OF EXIT VISAS GRANTED TO REFUSENIKS (REPORTED REFTEL B). TWO MORE REFUSENIKS OBTAINED EXIT VISAS, BUT THREE OLD REFUSENIKS HAD REFUSALS REAFFIRMED, AND FIVE NEW REFUSALS WERE ISSUED. END SUMMARY.

2. TWO MORE REFUSENIKS, VALERIY KOSS AND NATALIYA DYAKOVSKAYA DID RECEIVE PERMISSION TO EMIGRATE DURING THAT PERIOD, BUT ON DECEMBER 24, THE LAST WORKING FRIDAY SESSION OF THE YEAR FOR OVIR, EIGHT REFUSALS WERE HANDED DOWN.

3. THREE OF THESE REFUSALS WERE ISSUED TO PERSONS ALREADY IN REFUSENIK STATUS: ABA TARATUTA (WHO HAD NOT REAPPLIED, BUT WAS NONETHELESS SUMMONED TO OVIR TO HAVE HIS REFUSAL REAFFIRMED), ISAAK KOGAN, CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 02 LENING 00024 071028Z

AND YEVGENIY REYNBERG. FIVE REFUSALS WERE ISSUED TO FIRST TIME APPLICANTS: YEVSEY BRAVIY, ALEKSANDR GINSBURG, OL'GA PIKEL'NAYA, ALEKSANDR DIVIDSON, AND LEONID TSINKIN. ALL BUT GINSBURG REPRESENT FAMILIES. REASON FOR REFUSAL, IN CASES WHERE INFORMATION IS AVAILABLE, IS SECRECY RELATED TO WORK.

4. POST HAS OBTAINED COPY OF "CENSUS" MADE BY REFUSENIKS OF THEIR COMMUNITY (REFTEL A: POUCHED DEPARTMENT) WHICH INDICATES THAT DESPITE NEW REFUSALS, REFUSENIK POPULATION STANDS AT 85 INDIVIDUALS AND/OR HEADS OF FAMILIES. BY ONE SOURCE' SCOUNT, 39 REFUSENIKS WERE GIVEN PERMISSION TO EMIGRATE LAST YEAR. BY ANOTHER COUNT, WHICH POST TAKES AS MORE AUTHORITATIVE SINCE IT WAS MADE BY ONE OF THE KEY PERSONS AMONG THE CENSUS-MAKERS, 45 REFUSENIKS WERE GIVEN PERMISSION TO EMIGRATE WHILE 43 NEW REFUSALS WERE HANDED DOWN.

5. COMMENT: WHETHER THIS YEAR-END ACTIVITY AT OVIR REPRESENTS A CHURLISH NEW YEAR GESTURE OR SIMPLY "STORMING" TO FULFILL THE PLAN, IT NONETHELESS LEAVES INTACT OUR IMPRESSION OF A VERY GOOD YEAR FOR THE LENINGRAD REFUSENIK COMMUNITY. EVEN BY THE MOST CONSERVATIVE FIGURES, THE TURNOVER WITHIN THE COMMUNITY FOR THE YEAR WAS WELL OVER ONE-THIRD, AND IT MAY WELL HAVE REACHED ONE-HALF. END COMMENT. NEUBERT

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## Message Attributes

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**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
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**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
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**Review Markings:**  
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